frontline demonstrations in consultation with ATMAs, and to give priority for conducting the training programmes as and when requested by ATMAs.

Wastage of agriculture produce

1946. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of agriculture products wasted during the period 2002-2005 due to bad quality of seeds and pesticides, year-wise and product-wise; and

(b) the actions being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Sir, Seed is the basic input in agricultural production system and performance of other inputs is also determined by the quality of seeds, which make a difference in production/ productivity to the extent of about 45%. In India about 80% seeds used are farm saved seeds, which accounts for low seed replacement rate and impacts productivity. However, efforts have been made to enhance agricultural productivity by promoting use of quality seed.

The Quality of Seeds is regulated by the Seeds Act, 1966 and Seed (Control) Order, 1983, which prescribe minimum seed standards and address issues related to production and distribution of seeds. In order to ensure supply of quality pesticides to farmers, the Government of India along with State Government regulates the import, manufacture, production and sale of pesticides under the Insecticides Act, 1968. The Act has sufficient provisions to regulate the quality of pesticides distributed to the farmers. Punitive actions are taken against the manufacturer/dealer of spurious and misbranded pesticides.

Impact of agricultural import on Indian agriculture

1947. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any study in Uttaranchal